

Message Text

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ORIGIN SS-25

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TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS PRIORITY

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S E C R E T STATE 014791

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG/OECD/NO

SUBJECT: IEA - PROPOSED AGREEMENT WITH NORWAY

REF: STATE 9363

1. ON THE BASIS OF BOSWORTH/DAVIGNON CONVERSATION
JANUARY 18 AND SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION WITH CANADIANS US
CONTINUES TO BELIEVE THAT CURRENT IEA-NORWAY DRAFT
AGREEMENT NEEDS TO BE STRENGTHENED TO SPECIFY MORE CLEARLY
NORWAY'S OBLIGATIONS.

2. YOU SHOULD INFORM DAVIGNON THAT INFORMAL CANADIAN
REACTION TO US PROPOSED CHANGES TO THE CURRENT DRAFT IS
POSITIVE. CANADIANS BELIEVE THAT THE CHANCE THAT SPECIAL

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ARRANGEMENTS FOR NORWAY WOULD BECOME AN ISSUE IN CANADA

WOULD BE SUBSTANTIALLY REDUCED IF THE GOC COULD DEMONSTRATE THAT IN EXCHANGE FOR A NARROW ESCAPE CLAUSE NORWAY HAD PAID A PRICE IN TERMS OF A STANDBY PRODUCTION COMMITMENT IN EXCESS OF THAT WHICH WOULD HAVE BEEN REQUIRED HAD NORWAY BEEN A FULL MEMBER.

3. IN VIEW OF THE POSITIVE CANADIAN REACTION AND OUR OWN CONCERNS OF WHICH DAVIGNON IS ALREADY AWARE YOU SHOULD SUGGEST TO DAVIGNON THAT HE REOPEN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE

NORWEGIANS WITH A VIEW TO REVISING ARTICLE 1 OF THE PROPOSED IEA-NORWAY AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE FOR:

-- A POSITIVE PRESUMPTION OF NORWEGIAN IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY MEASURES EXCEPT IN CASES WHERE CRITICAL NATIONAL INTEREST OTHERWISE REQUIRES,

-- A COMMITMENT BY NORWAY, IN EXCHANGE FOR THE ESCAPE CLAUSE, TO SUPPLY TO IEA PARTICIPANTS ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES OF OIL FROM STANDBY CAPACITY IN EXCESS OF THOSE REQUIRED BY ARTICLES 7 AND 8 OF THE IEA AGREEMENT,

-- NORWEGIAN AGREEMENT TO ENTER INTO ANNUAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE IEA IN ORDER TO SPECIFY THE AMOUNT OF STANDBY PRODUCTION REFERRED TO ABOVE,

-- NORWEGIAN ADHERENCE TO CHAPTERS V-VII OF THE INTERNATIONAL ENERGY PROGRAM.

4. ABOVE REMAINS US PREFERRED APPROACH AND ONE WHICH WE BELIEVE DAVIGNON SHOULD PURSUE WITH NORWEGIANS. YOU MAY INFORM DAVIGNON, HOWEVER, THAT THE US IS PREPARED TO CONSIDER AN ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION WITH A SHORTENED REVISION OF ARTICLE 1 LIMITED TO MAKING CLEAR THE PRESUMPTION OF POSITIVE ACTION BY NORWAY EXCEPT FOR REASONS OF OVERRIDING NATIONAL INTEREST. UNDER THIS ALTERNATIVE FORMULATION NORWAY'S COMMITMENT TO SUPPLY

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ADDITIONAL QUANTITIES OF OIL, TO CONSULT WITH THE IEA WITH REGARD TO THE LEVEL OF THESE QUANTITIES, AND TO BE BOUND BY OTHER SECTIONS OF THE IEA AGREEMENT WOULD BE SPECIFIED IN AN AGREED GOVERNING BOARD STATEMENT TO WHICH NORWAY WOULD BE PARTY OR OTHERWISE SUBSCRIBE.

5. A PROVISIONAL US DRAFT OF SUCH A GOVERNING BOARD STATEMENT WAS GIVEN TO DAVIGNON ON JANUARY 18. THE TEXT

OF THE US DRAFT WILL BE TRANSMITTED TO ADDRESSEES BY
SEPTEL. KISSINGER

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